



CAMBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER ISSUE 91



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The sponsor for our newsletter which we gained in August 2014 has very kindly agreed to renew the sponsorship for a further period of twelve months through to August 2017. Members are encouraged to contact our sponsor for advice as detailed above.

The editor will try to publish newsletters on a three monthly basis. Newsletters since that for the August 2014 edition are also available as a pdf file from the Society website. A new section "5" on the Society web site has been designed to accommodate this.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the late summer 2016 newsletter. We have had another excellent programme year and hope to repeat the quality and mixture of speakers over the remaining months of 2016. Our thanks are due to Richard Husband, our former Programme Secretary, who has organised this for the Society, although the day to day administration is now with Rufus Barnes.

From time to time we have to make changes to our published programme on the blue cards. However, the editor tries to keep the programme details on the Society's web site always up to date; this can be found at; - www.cambridgephilatelsociety.co.uk

If any member is on email, and has not received this newsletter by email, but would be happy to receive future newsletters and communications by email then would you please let the secretary know at; info@cambridgephilatelsociety.co.uk ; this will help save on both postage and paper costs.

MEMBERS' NEWS

After a short period of health problems **David Stirrups** was admitted on 4th July as an emergency patient to Addenbrooke's Hospital with the subsequent diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. We are sorry to have to report that David's health took a turn for the worse during early August and he died on 12th August. He will be sadly missed by both his family, to whom we offer our deepest sympathy, and the philatelic world. David was closely involved with the Dundee Philatelic Society since 1992 and served in a number of positions including President in their centenary year.



He was actively involved with the annual junior competitions at the Scottish Philatelic Congress from 2004 to 2007. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London in 2006, and the following year invited to sign the Book of Scottish Philatelists. David entered philatelic competitions at local, Federation, National and International levels. A review of his awards shows that in recent years he had reached the pinnacle of international competitions with a Gold at the Melbourne International in 2013 and two Large Golds at London 2015.

Given his background it was perhaps an obvious choice for him to be chosen by the Association of British Philatelic Societies to be the Chairman of the 2016 Congress to be held in Cambridge. David threw himself wholeheartedly into chairing the organising committee. He identified locations for the prestigious dinner and for the Signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Alas, however, David's health began to deteriorate and it was clear to him by the last pre-event committee meeting that he had to step aside. The Congress was a great success and its success was in no small way due to his diligence and sheer hard work.

Tony Crofton was admitted to Papworth Hospital in early July for the fitting of a pace maker. Our treasurer spoke to Tony a week ago when he confirmed he has his pacemaker successfully in place and is back on the road to good health. He expects to be able to attend meetings again shortly.

New York 2016 World Stamp show. Three members from Cambridge P S contributed to the Royal Philatelic Society London's display of 147 single sheet display in New York, one for each year that the society has been in existence. Congratulations are due to;

1979: **Alistair Kennedy**; Cuban Training Brigade in Mozambique

1985: **David Stirrups**; Photographic Essay of Gibraltar 80p International Youth Year Group

1993: **Richard Husband**; Great Britain forged 24p Machin postally used.

NEW PROGRAMME CARDS

The new programme card for 2016-2017 has been printed. For those members who were present at the 19th August meeting then the new programme card should have been picked up then. Taking this into account then for those members who receive the Newsletter by post then the new programme card will be enclosed, and for those members who receive the Newsletter by email and were not present at 19th August meeting nor will be present at the 7th September meeting then the programme card will also be posted.

If any member has not received a new programme card by say 14th September then would he or she please let me know.



Friday 17th June

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Reports were received from the main areas of the Society on the events and work of the past year. Cups and trophies were presented to the various competition winners; please see the new 2016-2017 programme card for full details.

Rufus Barnes was installed as the new president with **John George** nominated as president elect. The officers were duly re-elected with the exception of **Peter Morton** who was elected as secretary to take over from **Richard Husband** who was standing down, with **Graham Wylde** elected as treasurer taking over from Peter Morton who was co-opted into that role last September following the death of **John Pearce**. Rufus Barnes took over as Programme Secretary until such time as any other member is willing to take over this role.

Wednesday 6th July

A WEMBLEY STORY – DON KNIGHT

We welcomed **Don Knight** for an interesting evening of Wembley memorabilia, postcards, labels, postal stationery, postal wrappers and also stamps. Of interest were tickets for the 1948 Olympic Games and overprinted stamps depicting the games, as well as signed covers from the very successful 1996 World Cup football team.

Friday 15th July

AN EVENING WITH THE NEWSPAPERS

Simon Kelly, our immediate past president, delighted us with an excellent display of the different tax dies levied on paper used for the printing of newspapers, under the title of; An Evening with the Newspapers. Additional tax levies were also a means of raising money to fund the cost of wars. Paper had to be sent to Somerset House for taxing, before going to printers for the printing of the newspaper.

First up was a 1712 edition of The Spectator with a ½d red Newspaper Duty die. Subsequent copies showed Additional dies with multiple ½d supplements. By 1815 the tax was 4d but discounts were available. In 1836 the Tax came down to 1d shown by an example on a complete page of The Times.

In 1853 the first black dies appeared with The Times, then the Illustrated London News and the Stamford Mercury. These were printed together with the news at the newspaper offices, and a tell-tale kept an account of the number of impressions. Illustrations from the ILN showed the handling of the papers by the Post Office, and stamped front pages showed the black stamps on issues reporting the progress of the Ethiopian Campaign.

The second half concentrated on the Stamford Mercury which is believed to have started around 1710-1712. Several original examples of the whole paper were shown from around 1789 with different red and black die impressions. Copies of squared circle and hooded postmark essays of 1878 were seen followed by used examples of hooded postmarks.

Many examples of newspaper wrappers were shown with postal stationery from Victoria through Edward VII, George V and George VI to Elizabeth II including Wilding and Machin eras; all were pre-cancelled with the Stamford Mercury hooded dies. An example of the only known error of colour for a stationery die, the halfpenny blue as opposed to turquoise of 1971.



Wednesday 3rd August

MEMBERS' EVENING; CARRIED BY BOAT

John Towler commenced the session by putting up a London ship letter to the USA via the steamer Baltic. This was followed by various service personnel postcards from on board ship. **Alistair Boggust** displayed a full sheet of Newfoundland stamps which had to arrive there via ship. He also put up examples of TPO (sea) mail. **Richard Husband** showed various covers transported by ship including Antarctic cruise ship mail, and an air letter written on board a ship. **Michael Leveridge** displayed different paquebot cancellations and also copy letters from the National Maritime Museum concerning a ship's master who drowned. **John George** put up TPO covers from the Nile ships as well as ship mail from Huntingdon to Australia, and mail emanating from the Crimea War. **Mike Bavin** revealed different ships letters including one to Denmark. **Peter Morton** finished off the first session with examples of Victorian stamps used on letters posted on board Channel Islands steamers going to the French ports for mail destined to the UK.

Alistair Kennedy showed a multitude of covers which travelled from different destinations, including Aden, Mauritius and India to London. **Tony Crowther** followed with a Scottish flavour with ships mail to and from Scotland including India to Montrose and Edinburgh to Calcutta. Lillian Swift put up train ferry mail from Copenhagen to Sweden and also Norwegian cruise ship mail. **Graham Wyld**e concluded the evening with covers from the UK to USA, Vienna and Leipzig, all bearing Victorian surface printed stamps.

Friday 19th August

THE VICTORIA CROSS

We welcomed **Ron Jones** who gave a fascinating display by way of a mixture of stamps, covers, postcards, photographs and memorabilia all involving the Victoria Cross. With some winners of the VC there was a potted history of the individual concerned and how that party came to be awarded the VC. In the second half Ron showed various cigarette cards of the VC winners.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The new 2016-2017 programme commences with the following meetings.

Wednesday 7th September

NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK; COLIN FRASER

Friday 16th September

PRESIDENT'S EVENING; RUFUS BARNES

Wednesday 5th October

B M A MALAYA; PETER COCKBURN

Friday 21st October

SCOTTISH POSTAL HISTORY; IAIN STEVENSON



OTHER MATTERS

PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN

This event was hosted by the Society in conjunction with ABPS, and was held at the Cambridge Belfry Hotel in Cambourne from 21st to 24th July.

Thanks are due to those who were on the local committee; David Stirrups, Rufus Barnes, Simon Kelly and Peter Morton. We are also grateful to Simon Kelly, Adrian Boggust, and Rufus Barnes all of whom made formal presentations via powerpoint. Simon Kelly was also involved with the walk around central Cambridge on the Saturday afternoon exploring places of postal significance.

Additionally on the Sunday morning ten of our members also presented a nine sheet display and made themselves available to answer any questions which members of Congress raised. These were; Rufus Barnes, John George, Richard Husband, Simon Kelly, Alistair Kennedy, Peter Morton, Brian Mynott, Ray Revell, Lillian Swift, and Graham Wylde.

MID ANGLIA PHILATELIC FEDERATION

Full details of events, contacts and recent newsletters appear on the federation website; www.mapf.co.uk

The latest Federation newsletter was emailed out to those members on email on 1st September, and for those not on email a copy will be available to read at our next meeting on Wednesday 7th September.

The next Federation Display Day will be held at Denver, near Downham Market on Saturday 8th October 2016.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Included with this newsletter is the renewal notice for members' subscriptions which are due on 1st September 2016. The subscription is being held at £10.00 for the year. Would members please note that due to increased postal costs the treasurer will not be issuing a receipt by post, but would be happy to confirm renewal by way of email; please therefore include your email address accordingly.

SOCIETY AUCTION

As the number of auction lots at the March 2016 auction were down on the previous years, would all members please make a special effort over the coming months to get suitable material set aside for the next auction which takes place on Wednesday 1st March 2017. Full details should be given to our president Rufus Barnes, ideally during December by email to; roodle2@sky.com

PJM 1st September 2016

Email; peter.mortong@btopenworld.com